In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 3, 12, 14, 15, 25 and 30; cancel claims 4-7, 9-10, 13, 16, 22 and 31 as follows:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for automated shopping, utilizing an order center connected to a data network, the method comprising the steps of:

placing a cordless handheld scanning wand in a vendor mode by activating a vendor mode button on said scanning wand, said scanning wand having a memory element, said cordless handheld scanning wand comprising an elongated device extending between first and second distal ends and configured to be held in a hand, an optical reader means at said first distal end and a connector at said second distal end, said vendor mode button being on said wand between said first and second distal ends;

reading a machine-readable vendor identity code with said cordless handheld scanning wand;

storing said vendor identity code in a transaction file stored in said memory element;

placing said cordless handheld scanning wand in a user mode prior to reading said user identity code by activating a user mode button on said scanning wand, said user mode button on said wand between said first and second distal ends;

reading a machine-readable user identity code with said cordless handheld scanning wand;

storing said user identity code in said transaction file;

placing said cordless handheld scanning wand in a product mode by activating a product mode button on said scanning wand, said product mode button located between said first and second distal ends;

reading a machine-readable product identity code with said cordless handheld scanning wand;

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storing said product identity code in said transaction file;

connecting said cordless handheld scanning wand to the order center over the data network by placing said scanning wand in a cradle module connected to the data network; and,

transmitting said transaction file over the data network to the order center.

2. (Previously Presented) A method as defined by claim 1 wherein said scanning wand memory element has an order center data network address stored therein, the method further comprising the step of assigning said order center data network address to said transaction file, and wherein said transaction file is transmitted over said data network to said order center network address.

3. (Currently Amended) A method as defined by claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

receiving said transaction file at the order center;

extracting at least a first and a second ~~said~~ of said vendor identity codes from said transaction file;

determining a destination vendor data network address for each of said first and second vendor identity codes, and

forwarding at least a portion of said transaction file to each of said first and second destination vendor data network addresses over the data network.

4-11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) A method as defined by claim 1 wherein said handheld cordless scanning wand further comprises:

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a vendor mode indicator <u>light on said scanning wand between said first and second distal ends and proximate to said vendor mode button</u> <s>means</s> for indicating said scanning wand is in said vendor mode;

<u>a</u> user mode indicator <u>light on said scanning wand between said first and second distal ends and proximate to said user mode button</u> <s>means</s> for indicating that said scanning wand is in said user mode; <s>and,</s>

<u>a</u> product mode indicator <u>light on said scanning wand between said first and second distal ends and proximate to said product mode button</u> <s>means</s> for indicating that said scanning wand is in said product identity mode<u>; and,</u>

<u>each of said user mode, said product user mode and said vendor mode, indicator lights being separate from one another.</u><s>-</s>

13.   (Canceled)

14.   (Currently Amended) A method as defined by claim 1 wherein said scanning wand further comprises <u>an</u> order mode <u>button between said first and second distal ends</u> <s>switching means</s> for placing said scanning wand in an order mode, and wherein said scanning wand further comprises <u>an</u> order mode indicator <u>light proximate to said order mode button</u> <s>means</s> for indicating said scanning means is in said order mode.

15.   (Currently Amended) A method as defined by claim 1 wherein the method further comprises the step of:

receiving a transaction confirmation signal with confirmation indicator means, <u>said confirmation indicator means being a subcomponent of said wand,</u> said confirmation signal being sent from the order center upon receipt of said transaction file.

16-20. (Canceled)

21.   (Previously Presented) A method as defined by claim 1 wherein said cordless handheld scanning wand further comprises an order status button, and wherein the method further comprises the step of:

activating said order status button to transmit an order status request over the data network to the order center, said order status request comprising at least said user identity code; and,

receiving an order status reply with a peripheral device attached to the data network.

22-24. (Canceled)

25.   (Currently Amended) A method for automated shopping from a catalogue, the method utilizing a data network, an order center connected to the data network, a cradle module connected to the data network, and an elongated handheld wand having two distal ends and a memory module, the method comprising the steps of:

activating a vendor mode switch located on the handheld wand between said two distal ends to place the wand in a vendor mode and to cause a vendor mode indicator light on said wand proximate to said vendor mode switch to be illuminated;

reading a machine-readable user vendor identity code from the catalog with optical reading means contained in the wand first distal end;

storing said vendor identity code in a transaction file in the wand memory module;

activating a user mode switch located on the handheld wand between said two distal ends to place the wand in a user mode and to cause a user mode indicator light located on said wand proximate to said user mode switch to be illuminated;

reading a machine-readable user identity code with said wand optical reading means;

storing said user identity code in said transaction file;

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activating a product mode switch located on the handheld wand between said two distal ends to place the wand in a product mode and to cause a product mode indicator light located on said wand proximate to said product mode switch to be illuminated;

reading a machine-readable product code from said catalog with said wand optical reading means;

storing said product code in said transaction file;

connecting a first connector on the wand second distal end with a mating second connector on the cradle module;

transmitting said transaction file from the wand memory module through the cradle and over the data network to the order center;

receiving a confirmation signal sent over the data network from the order center upon receipt of said transaction file;

activating an order status mode switch located on the handheld wand between said two distal ends to place the wand in an order status mode and to cause an order status indicator light located on said wand proximate to said order status mode switch to be illuminated;

transmitting an order status request from the wand through the cradle over the data network to the order center, said order status request comprising at least said user identity code; and,

receiving an order status response corresponding to said user identity code sent from the order center over the data network upon receipt of said order status request.

26-29. (Canceled)

30.   (Currently Amended)   A computer program product for conducting automated shopping, the computer program product utilizing a catalog, a data network, a cradle module connected to the data network, a peripheral device connected to the cradle

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module, and an order center connected to the data network, the computer program product comprising computer executable instructions stored in a computer readable medium, the computer readable medium embedded in a rigid, cordless, elongated handheld wand with two distal ends and having a scanning means and a memory module, the instructions when executed causing the wand to:

enter into a vendor mode upon manual activation of a vendor mode switch located on the handheld cordless wand between said two distal ends and cause a vendor mode indicator light located on the handheld cordless wand proximate to said vendor mode switch to be illuminated;

read a machine readable vendor code from the catalog using the optical reader while in said vendor mode;

store said vendor code in a transaction file held on the wand memory module;

enter into a user mode upon manual activation of a user mode switch located on the handheld cordless wand between said two distal ends and cause a user mode indicator light located on the wand proximate to said user mode switch to be illuminated;

read a machine readable user identity code from the catalog while in said user mode;

store said user identity code in said transaction file;

enter into a product mode upon manual activation of a product mode switch located on the handheld cordless wand between said two distal ends and cause a user mode indicator light located on the wand proximate to said product mode switch to be illuminated;

read a machine readable product identity code from the catalog while in said product mode;

store said product identity code in said transaction file;

enter into an order mode upon activation of an order mode switch;

connect to the data network through the cradle module;

transmit said transaction file over the data network to the order center while in said order mode;

accept a confirmation signal transmitted over the data network from the order center; and,

output said confirmation signal over the peripheral device.

31.   (Canceled)

32.   (Previously Presented) A method as defined by claim 1 wherein the step of reading said machine-readable user identity code comprises reading a catalog mailing label with said scanning wand.

33.   (Previously Presented) A method as defined by claim 32 wherein said user identity code includes use user address data, and wherein the step of reading said catalog mailing label with said scanning wand includes reading said user address data from said mailing label.

34.   (Previously Presented) A method as defined by claim 1 wherein the step of reading said machine-readable vendor identity code with said scanning wand comprises reading a catalog name from a catalog cover.

35.   (Previously Presented) A method as defined by claim 1 wherein the step of reading a machine-readable product identity code with said scanning wand comprises reading an alpha-numeric product code with said scanning wand.

36.   (Previously Presented) A method as defined by claim 1 wherein the step of reading a machine-readable vendor identity code includes reading at least a first and a second machine-readable identity code, wherein the step of reading a product

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identity code includes reading at least a first and a second product identity code, said first product identity code corresponding to said first vendor identity code and said second product identity code corresponding to said second vendor identity code, wherein the steps of storing said product identity code and said vendor identity code in said transaction file includes storing said first and second product identity codes and said first and second vendor identity codes in said transaction file, and wherein the method further comprises the steps of receiving said transaction file at the order center, communicating said user identity code and said first product identity code to a first vendor corresponding to said first vendor identity code, and communicating said user identity code and said second product identity code to a second vendor corresponding to said second vendor identity code.